



S/2390/2025
4 April 2025
ENGLISH only

NOTE BY THE TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE TWENTY-THIRD REGIONAL MEETING OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES IN ASIA NEW DELHI, INDIA 1 – 3 JULY 2025

1. The Technical Secretariat of the OPCW (the Secretariat) invites National Authorities in the Asia region to nominate representatives to attend the Twenty-Third Regional Meeting of National Authorities of States Parties in Asia, which will be held in New Delhi, India, from 1 to 3 July 2025.
2. The regional meeting of National Authorities will serve as a forum for States Parties in Asia to discuss the status of the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Convention) within the region. To this end, States Parties will have the opportunity to share their experiences, current understandings, challenges, priorities, and capacity-building needs to advance the implementation of the Convention in line with their respective constitutional requirements. In light of priorities identified at the regional, subregional, and national levels, National Authorities will be able to discuss potential areas for State-to-State cooperation and/or assistance.
3. The objectives of the meeting are to:
 - (a) provide States Parties with updates on the capacity-building activities of the Secretariat, and discuss regional priorities and regional support needs;
 - (b) discuss national implementation of Article VII of the Convention, specifically successes, challenges, and priorities with respect to the adoption of comprehensive national implementing legislation;
 - (c) explore opportunities for regional and subregional cooperation to advance the implementation of the Convention, including through bilateral cooperation;
 - (d) discuss practices related to States Parties' declaration and inspection obligations under Article VI of the Convention; and
 - (e) discuss national experiences with respect to the development of legislative and regulatory frameworks on chemical security, including through the use of the National Implementation Framework.



4. The expected results of the meeting include:
 - (a) increased awareness of the status of implementation of the Convention and of the challenges faced at the national and regional levels;
 - (b) an in-depth understanding of the critical importance of the comprehensive implementation of Articles VI and VII of the Convention in preventing the re-emergence of chemical weapons and addressing Convention-related security threats;
 - (c) an enhanced sense of ownership by the National Authorities in terms of national implementation responsibilities;
 - (d) a shared understanding of regional priorities, capacity-building needs, and the means to achieve these priorities;
 - (e) an enhanced level of coordination and collaboration among the national and regional stakeholders that are expected to play a key role in the national implementation of the Convention;
 - (f) the identification of potential subregional or regional cooperation opportunities to further implementation of the Convention; and
 - (g) the collection of feedback on ways and means to further improve capacity-building activities for the region and tools to improve national implementation, including by making use of the National Implementation Framework.
5. The provisional programme for the regional meeting is provided as the Annex to this Note. Participants in the meeting will be expected to contribute to the proceedings and discussions by making presentations, taking part in discussions, and acting as facilitators during the sessions.
6. The meeting will be conducted in English. All participants are therefore expected to have a good oral and written command of English.
7. The Secretariat expects to be able to sponsor **one participant from each State Party** in the Asia region. The nominee should be a representative of the National Authority directly responsible for or involved in Convention implementation. Nominations should specify whether sponsorship is a condition for a nominee's participation. States Parties are welcome to nominate participants for whom sponsorship is not required.
8. For sponsored participants, the Secretariat will cover the costs of travel, hotel accommodation, meals, and medical insurance, in addition to a limited subsistence allowance to cover terminal and sundry expenses. Sponsored participants who do not intend to use the accommodation arranged by the Secretariat are requested to indicate this no later than four weeks prior to the event in order to prevent the Secretariat from incurring hotel cancellation fees. In any case, the Secretariat will not cover the costs of any accommodation that it has not arranged.
9. Participants should be fit to travel. All participants taking prescribed medication should arrive with supplies sufficient for the duration of the event.

10. When making travel arrangements for sponsored participants, the Secretariat will seek the most economical options. The Secretariat will purchase tickets and send them directly to the participants. Participants will be allowed to purchase tickets locally only if this leads to further savings for the Secretariat. Participants who have not been sponsored will be requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.
11. In order to keep costs to a minimum, sponsored participants are expected to arrive **no earlier than 30 June 2025** and to depart **no later than 4 July 2025**. The Secretariat's agreement is required for any changes to these arrival and departure dates. The Secretariat will not cover expenses that are not related to the meeting or that result from changes in travel arrangements that it has not authorised. Sponsored participants must bear all costs resulting from changes they make, including cancellations, once the Secretariat has purchased tickets.
12. Participants are requested to obtain any necessary visas (including transit visas) before travelling to India. When applying for any required entry visa, they should present the Embassy or Consulate of India with a copy of the acceptance letter from the OPCW.
13. Participants nominated by the National Authority of their respective State Party are invited to register online through Eventus, the OPCW event management system (<https://eventus.opcw.org>). **The deadline for submission of nominations is 29 April 2025**. Each nomination must be approved digitally on the Eventus platform by the respective nominee's National Authority.
14. Additional information about this event may be obtained from the Implementation Support Branch, International Cooperation and Assistance Division of the Secretariat. The contact persons are Ms Suzanna Khoshabi (Email: suzanna.khoshabi@opcw.org) and Mr Alberto Fernandez (Email: alberto.fernandez@opcw.org).
15. The Secretariat strongly encourages States Parties and National Authorities to seek, support, and endorse applications from qualified women candidates.

Annex: Provisional Programme

Annex

**TWENTY-THIRD REGIONAL MEETING
OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES OF STATES PARTIES IN ASIA
NEW DELHI, INDIA
1 – 3 JULY 2025**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

	Agenda Item
<i>Tuesday, 1 July 2025</i>	
	Opening ceremony
	Update on OPCW capacity-building activities under Articles VII, X, and XI of the Convention
	The current global security architecture and role of the OPCW
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional context and recent developments relevant to national implementation of the Convention • National presentations: experiences, challenges, and priorities with respect to national implementation of the Convention
	Advancing national implementing legislation for the Convention: update from the Secretariat and panel discussion
<i>Wednesday, 2 July 2025</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article VI declarations and related topics: update from the Secretariat • National presentations: practice, experience, and feedback on the implementation of Article VI requirements
	Article VI inspections and related topics: updates from the Secretariat
	The Mentorship/Partnership Programme: national experiences in participating in the Programme
	Best practices for resolving transfer discrepancies: update from the Secretariat and group discussion
<i>Thursday, 3 July 2025</i>	
	Artificial intelligence: opportunities for and challenges in Convention implementation
	Relevant global and regional cooperation initiatives in support of Convention implementation: panel discussion
	Conclusions and closing remarks